

Trailblazer name

TB0416

Trailblazer reference number

Midwife

Title of occupation

Midwife

UOS reference number

ST0794

Core and options

No

Level of occupation

Level 7

Route

—

Typical duration of apprenticeship

None

Target date for approval

31 December 2018

Resubmission

No

Occupational profile**This occupation is found in...**

a range of healthcare settings offering different models of care. Most midwives are employed by the NHS while others work in the private sector, social enterprise or independently. A midwife may work in the community such as in a woman's home, community hubs, GP surgeries, clinics, midwife-led units and birth centres or in hospital maternity units. This means that they usually work shifts including evenings, weekends and nights and may be on-call to provide 24-hour care.

The broad purpose of the occupation is...

be the first and main contact for a woman, her partner and family, recognised as a responsible and accountable professional, the midwife acts as an advocate for the woman, working in partnership with her and giving the necessary support, care and advice during pregnancy, labour and the postnatal period. Midwives are lead co-ordinators of care as well as the first point of contact for a woman, her baby and family. They offer support, care and advice and are responsible for facilitating births and providing care for the newborn.

Midwives are experts in normal physiological birth and in supporting the woman through all birth outcomes. The personalised care they provide includes preventative measures, the detection of complications in mother and baby, the promotion of normal birth, the accessing of medical care or other appropriate assistance and the carrying out of emergency measures. The midwife has an important role in public health, offering health counselling and education, not only for the woman, but also within the family and the community. This work involves antenatal education and preparation for parenthood and may extend to a woman's health, sexual or reproductive health. A midwife provides full antenatal care for the woman, carrying out clinical examinations and screening. They offer antenatal and parenting classes to help the woman, her partner and family prepare for the birth of the baby and to care for it once it has been born. The midwife monitors and supports the woman, her partner and family during labour and the birthing process, helping the woman to birth her baby and assessing both the woman's and the baby's overall health and wellbeing. Midwives can identify complex pregnancies and know when to refer to others or seek appropriate support. They are able to offer guidance and support around issues such as stillbirth, miscarriage, termination, neonatal death or other complications. Following birth midwives offer support for infant feeding, recovery and may refer the woman to other services as required.

In their daily work, an employee in this occupation interacts with...

women and families from a range of backgrounds. Midwives need to have excellent communication skills to support the woman, her partner and family through the emotional, physical and psychological process of childbirth. Midwives are part of the wider health and social care multidisciplinary team, working in partnership with colleagues as required. A midwife must have excellent situational awareness and knowledge of other human factors.

An employee in this occupation will be responsible for...

caring for a number of women and may manage a caseload (continuity of carer). Midwives are responsible and accountable autonomous practitioners who provide woman and family centred integrated care. Midwives act as an advocate for the woman, enabling them and their families to make informed choices about the options and services available throughout pregnancy, labour and post-natal period. The midwife is responsible for the health of both the mother and baby and refers to others if there are medical, social or other complications. Midwives are regulated by the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) and are responsible for their own practice and for keeping up to date with current knowledge and skills.

Transferability

The Institute expects that being competent in the duties you have listed in this proposal will mean that an individual will be able to undertake the occupation in all relevant types of employer. Please outline the steps you have taken to ensure that this will be the case.

By successfully completing this apprenticeship and registering as a midwife with the NMC the apprentice will be eligible to work in any setting in the UK as a midwife.

Stand-alone occupation

Please confirm that the proposed apprenticeship relates to a stand-alone occupation and explain how it will fit in with any associated apprenticeship standards.

Proposal to develop an apprenticeship standard L7: Midwife (continued)

Midwife is a standalone recognised and regulated profession. You cannot practice as a midwife without being registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC). The NMC register has different parts. The Midwifery part of the register is totally separate to the part for nurses. You can see more about Midwifery regulation here <https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/midwifery/midwifery-regulation/>. Midwife is listed on the IFA draft occupation map for Health and Science - see attached.

Duty	Criteria for measuring performance	OTJ training (days)
D1 Practise in accordance with the NMC standards and within the limits of own competence, knowledge and sphere of professional practice, in line with legislation and local policy and procedures	P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P2 Delivers clear, concise and evidence-based information or advice to the woman, her partner and family P3 Makes valid and reliable judgements P4 Delivers appropriate, effective and consistent care to the woman P5 Makes appropriate and timely referrals P6 Delivers appropriate, effective and consistent care to the newborn P7 Administers medication safely P8 Maintain clear and accurate records P9 Works in partnership with the woman, her partner, family and members of the multi-disciplinary team	30
D2 Communicate clearly and effectively with women, their partner and families	P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P2 Delivers clear, concise and evidence-based information or advice to the woman, her partner and family	30
D3 Confirm pregnancy, assess and monitor women holistically using a range of assessment methods to reach valid, reliable and comprehensive conclusions	P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P3 Makes valid and reliable judgements	40
D4 Determine and provide programmes of care and support for women	P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P4 Delivers appropriate, effective and consistent care to the woman	40
D5 Provide seamless care and, where appropriate, interventions, in partnership with women, their partner, families and other care providers during the antenatal period	P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P2 Delivers clear, concise and evidence-based information or advice to the woman, her partner and family P4 Delivers appropriate, effective and consistent care to the woman P5 Makes appropriate and timely referrals P9 Works in partnership with the woman, her partner, family and members of the multi-disciplinary team	60
D6 Refer women and babies in need of further care	P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P3 Makes valid and reliable judgements P5 Makes appropriate and timely referrals P9 Works in partnership with the woman, her partner, family and members of the multi-disciplinary team	30

Duty	Criteria for measuring performance	OTJ training (days)
D7 Care for, monitor and support women during labour and birth, monitoring the condition of the fetus and providing immediate care of the newborn after birth	Performance Criteria P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P4 Delivers appropriate, effective and consistent care to the woman P6 Delivers appropriate, effective and consistent care to the newborn	150
D8 Prepare for and manage emergencies	P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P3 Makes valid and reliable judgements P9 Works in partnership with the woman, her partner, family and members of the multi-disciplinary team	40
D9 Work in partnership with women and other care providers during the postnatal period to provide seamless care and interventions	P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P4 Delivers appropriate, effective and consistent care to the woman P5 Makes appropriate and timely referrals	60
D10 Examine and care for babies	P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P3 Makes valid and reliable judgements P6 Delivers appropriate, effective and consistent care to the newborn	60
D11 Advise on, supply and administer a range of permitted medications safely	P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P7 Administers medication safely	30
D12 Complete, store and retain records	P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P8 Maintain clear and accurate records	30
D13 Work as part of the wider health and social care team	P1 Works in line with legislation, standards, codes of conduct, national and local policies and procedures relevant to practice as a midwife P9 Works in partnership with the woman, her partner, family and members of the multi-disciplinary team	30

Chairs

Gloria Rowland (Barts Health NHS Trust)

Helen Knowler (Lewisham & Greenwich NHS Trust)

Facilitators

Lucy Blinko (Skills for Health)

Employer members

Name	Employer
Amanda O'Brien	University Hospitals Morecambe Bay NHS
Andrea Wheeler	Chelsea & Westminster Hospital NHS Trust
Annie Francis	Neighbourhood Midwives
Claire Flavell	United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust
Dawn Gilkes	Oxford University Hospitals NHS
Helen Warner	Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust
Maryam Tat	London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust
Nickey Tomkins	Medway NHS Foundation Trust
Nicola Parry	Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Pippa Clark	Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust
Sarah Jones	St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Sue Calder	Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust
Sue Gibson	Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust

Other members

Name	Employer
Andrea Aras-Payne	University of West London
Angelo Varetto	Skills for Health
Birte Harlev-Lam	NHS Improvement
Gabrielle Bourke	Royal College of Midwives
Heather Bower	University of Greenwich
Jacqui Williams	Nursing and Midwifery Council
Lesley Saunders	Sheffield Hallam University

Name	Employer
Louise Hunter	Oxford Brookes University
Marcia Edwards	University of Wolverhampton
Nicky Clark	University of Hull